

# The Hawaii Ocean Uses Atlas

*Collecting expert community knowledge on ocean uses through participatory mapping*

The Hawaii Ocean Uses Atlas is a collaboration between NOAA, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and the State of Hawaii Office of Planning designed to collect information on ocean use activities to inform analyses of any proposed offshore renewable energy development projects and coastal zone planning strategies and permitting decisions. Generalized information about ocean uses will be collected for marine waters surrounding the eight main Hawaiian islands from the shoreline to 200 nautical miles offshore.

Information on ocean uses will be gathered through a series of participatory mapping workshops that convene individuals with expertise on a wide range of ocean uses. Through facilitated discussions, the workshops will provide a forum for invited participants to share information on ocean activities, including where uses occur, what drives ocean use patterns and temporal or seasonal variations in ocean use activities.

Existing data collected from previous efforts will be presented and participants will be asked to review, update and build upon the current state of ocean use knowledge, representing perspectives from the broader use community rather than individual use experience.

## Non-Extractive Sector\*

Beach Use; Cruise Ships; Cultural Use; Motorized Boating; Paddling; Research Areas; Sailing; SCUBA & Snorkeling; Surface Board Sports; Swimming; Tide Pooling; Wildlife Viewing at Sea

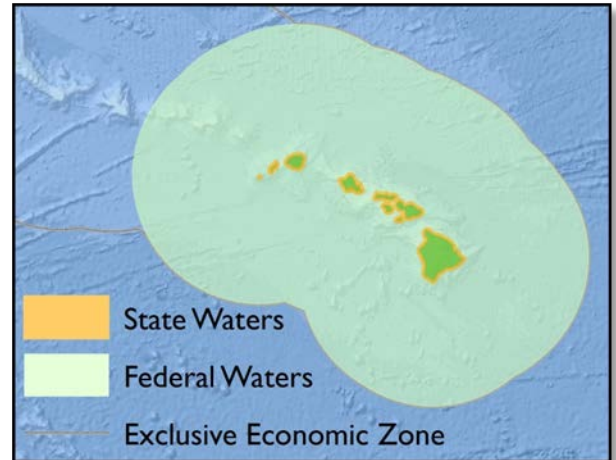
## Extractive Sector\*

Commercial Dive Fishing; Commercial Fishing from Shore; Commercial Fishing with Benthic Mobile & Fixed Gear; Commercial Intertidal Harvest; Commercial Pelagic Fishing; Commercial Limu (seaweed) Harvest; Recreational Dive Fishing; Recreational Fishing from Boats; Recreational Fishing from Shore; Kayak Fishing; Recreational Intertidal Harvest; Subsistence Fishing & Harvest

## Industry/Military Sector\*

Commercial Shipping; Deep Sea Mining and Mineral Extraction; Mariculture & Fishponds; Military Operations; Ocean Dumping; Renewable Energy; Underwater Pipelines; Underwater Cables

**\*Preliminary list of uses, subject to change.**



Workshops will be held in various locations throughout the state to ensure participation from a diverse group of use experts and will include discussion of a wide range of ocean use activities (see sample list left).

## Tentative Workshop Schedule

Kona: June 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Hilo: June 4<sup>th</sup>  
Lihue: June 6<sup>th</sup>  
Honolulu: June 9<sup>th</sup>  
Waipahu: June 10<sup>th</sup>  
Kahului: June 12<sup>th</sup>  
Lanai: September 17<sup>th</sup>  
Molokai: September 18<sup>th</sup>

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# Considerations & Commonly Asked Questions

The Hawaii Ocean Uses Atlas is a participatory mapping project designed to collect **generalized** information about a wide range of ocean use activities that occur in Hawaii's marine waters. Data will be collected through a series of workshops intended to serve as forums for discussing ocean use perspectives and capturing both spatial and non-spatial expert knowledge.



- ❖ Information will be gathered at a broad scale (i.e., general areas where uses occur, not exact locations).
- ❖ Invited workshop participants will be asked to provide data voluntarily to the extent they are comfortable sharing.
- ❖ Workshop participants will be invited to review and offer feedback on draft data before it is published.
- ❖ The project will not assign economic or social value to any place, use or suite of uses.
- ❖ The final data products, maps and project reports will be publicly available.
- ❖ Project information will not be used to designate suitable offshore renewable energy areas.
- ❖ Communities will have future opportunities to engage throughout decision-making processes.
- ❖ The project will not replace the need for in-depth, finer-scale studies for specific offshore renewable energy project proposals and site-specific planning purposes.

## ***How will the results of this project be used by BOEM and the State?***

The results of this project will be a step toward a better understanding of ocean uses and user communities for more informed analyses and decision-making by agencies. The data will offer a broad look at ocean use patterns and will assist in identifying at least a minimum number of ocean use communities that must be engaged when site-specific projects and planning efforts arise. This project is not intended to capture the level of detail required for site-specific project and planning decisions, which would go through a separate, thorough analysis and public comment process.

## ***Why is data being collected within state waters, federal waters and marine protected areas?***

Offshore ocean uses influence nearshore uses and users, and vice versa. Collecting information on ocean uses for all of Hawaii's marine waters will provide a more complete understanding of general ocean use patterns. Management authorities and jurisdictions differ throughout the study area; the project is designed to improve decision-making capabilities for a variety of agencies.

## ***Who will be invited to attend the workshops?***

This effort will target representatives of ocean use communities who can provide knowledge on a wide range of ocean uses activities as they occur over large areas. While it will engage members of Hawaii's communities, it is not a community-scale project. Workshop attendees will be asked to provide information on uses that they are aware of, not only those they engage in personally.

## ***How will cultural uses of the ocean be addressed?***

To varying degrees, all uses of the ocean are inherently cultural uses. While this project will strive to capture the cultural significance of various ocean uses during the data gathering workshops, it is not intended to thoroughly address cultural use. This project will complement other culturally-focused efforts that are currently underway and are designed to address ocean cultural landscapes more comprehensively.